



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Medical and Scientific Department
Ref. No. RBU/cftr

Nicola Williams
Fair Play to Women

nicolawilliams@fairplayforwomen.com

Lausanne, 17th September 2019

Dear Dr Williams,

Thank you for your email to IOC President Thomas Bach which has been passed on to me as the responsible Medical and Scientific Director of the IOC.

The IOC is consulting with a wide group of stakeholders on the matter of fairness and inclusivity considering gender identity and sex characteristics in relation to Transgender and DSD Athletes.

As you state, the last IOC Consensus meeting on Sex Reassignment and Hyperandrogenism took place in November 2015 resulting in a consensus statement that covered sex reassignment and participation in sport. The topic has gained a lot of attention since then with extensive public debate and discussion, and several cases going to court.

It is important to ascertain the degree of advantage in each sport/discipline and more research is urgently needed. This was one of the priorities in the call for research proposals to the IOC this year.

Currently, an IOC working group is developing a new framework that balances fairness, safety and non-discrimination, and which allows for the realities of each sport to be considered. We have liaised already in the last four years with affected athletes, lawyers, scientists, medical doctors and human rights experts, and are further broadening our consultation process in the coming weeks. Your letter is an important contribution to this consultation.

The finalisation of such a framework will be informed by the outcomes of these consultations as well as the reasoned conclusions of the Swiss Federal Tribunal which is ruling on the appeal against the IAAF eligibility regulations for female athletes with differences of sex development.

The framework, which will contain a set of new guidelines, will replace the previous consensus which represents scientific, medical and legal opinion in 2015 and is not a regulation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Budgett'.

Dr Richard Budgett
IOC Medical and Scientific Director